

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention relates generally to service and maintenance solutions for programmable and/or reconfigurable modules, which are included in nodes of a communications network. More particularly the invention relates to a communication module ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~ and a method of communicating with such a module ~~according to claim 45~~. The term communication module is here understood to designate arbitrary type of unit, which is adapted to exchange information with at least one other unit over a communications network. The communication module may thus be a line card or an optoelectrical transceiver in a switch or a router as well as a general-purpose computer with networking capabilities.